

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-22, and 24-32 are pending in the application and claims 1-7, 9-22 and 24-30 stand allowed whereas claims 31-32 stand rejected as being anticipated by US2002/0161666 to Fraki et al. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner but in the interest of cooperation and solely for the purpose of passing this case to issue have hereby canceled claims 31 and 32 without prejudice and expressly reserving the right to present these claims in a future divisional or continuation application.

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the Examiner's indication of allowability as to claims 1-7, 9-22 and 24-30 and, in view of the above amendments, submit that all pending claims are now allowable.

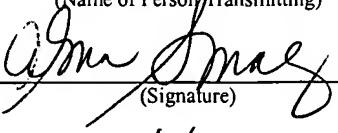
In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully urge the Examiner to pass this case to issue.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 08-2025. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 08-2025.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

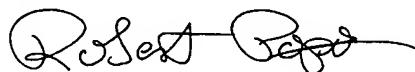
March 1, 2006
(Date of Transmission)

Alma Smalling
(Name of Person Transmitting)


(Signature)

3/1/06
(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



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